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Reply to Office Action of 25 January 2005

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway, the cover member surface comprising a protrusion which projects into the vent passageway; and

a screen comprising:

a plurality of screen apertures; and

a first bend for receiving the protrusion; [,]  
~~the first bend resiliently deformable to exert pressure on the protrusion and to secure the screen to the cover member such that the screen spans the vent passageway~~

a first surface which extends from the first bend along a first side of the protrusion and a second surface which extends from the first bend along a second side of the protrusion for gripping the protrusion between the first and second sides;

a third surface which extends from the second surface across the vent passageway to a first portion of the cover member surface on an opposing side of the vent passageway from the protrusion; and

a fourth surface which extends from the third surface along the first portion of the cover member surface,

wherein the first portion of the cover member surface comprises one or more projections which extend from the first portion of the cover member surface and project

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through one or more screen apertures in the fourth surface.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 2 1 wherein the first bend has an interior angle in a range of 10-60°.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 5 1 comprising one or more fastener members, each fastener member coupleable to a corresponding one of the one or more projections for retaining the fourth surface against the first portion of the cover member surface.
7. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 4 1 wherein the screen comprises a second bend between the second and third surfaces, the second bend having an interior angle in a range of 10-120°.
8. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 4 1 wherein the screen comprises a third bend between the third and fourth surfaces, the third bend having an interior angle in a range of 30-120°.

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9. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim ~~4~~ 1 wherein the third surface is substantially planar prior to deformation of the screen.
10. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim ~~4~~ 1 wherein the third surface comprises at least one curve prior to deformation of the screen.
11. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein the first surface comprises a distal end portion which extends beyond an edge of the first side of the protrusion and wherein the distal end portion is crimped.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 wherein the screen comprises a Z-shaped bend on one end thereof, the Z-shaped bend including the first bend.
14. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 comprising a damper member located in the vent passageway and pivotally coupled to the cover member.
15. (Original) A vent according to claim 14 wherein an exterior surface of the damper member has a profile that is substantially similar to a contour of a second portion of the cover member surface.

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16. (Original) A vent according to claim 15 wherein the damper member is pivotable between a closed configuration where a distal end of the damper member abuts against the protrusion and an open-most configuration wherein the exterior surface of the damper member extends along the second portion of the cover member surface.
17. (Original) A vent according to claim 15 wherein the profile of the exterior surface of the damper member and the contour of the second portion of the cover member surface are curved.
18. (Original) A vent according to claim 15 wherein the profile of the exterior surface of the damper member and the contour of the second portion of the cover member surface both comprise a similarly shaped bend.
19. (Original) A vent according to claim 1 comprising a substantially hollow adapter member, the adapter member coupleable to the cover member at its exterior end and to a conduit at its interior end to provide fluid communication between the vent passageway and the conduit.

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20. (Currently Amended) A vent ~~according to claim 19~~  
comprising:

a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway, the cover member surface comprising a protrusion which projects into the vent passageway; and

a screen comprising a plurality of screen apertures and a first bend for receiving the protrusion, the first bend resiliently deformable to exert pressure on the protrusion and to secure the screen to the cover member such that the screen spans the vent passageway; and

a substantially hollow adapter member, the adapter member coupleable to the cover member at its exterior end and to a conduit at its interior end to provide fluid communication between the vent passageway and the conduit;

wherein the cover member comprises a pair of substantially parallel flanges which define a slot and wherein the exterior end of the adapter member comprises a vent flange which is insertable into the slot for coupling the exterior end of the adapter member to the cover member.

21. (Original) A vent according to claim 20 wherein the vent flange comprises one or more projections and at least one of the substantially parallel flanges comprises one or more corresponding indents and wherein, when the vent flange is inserted in the slot, the one or more projections project into the one or more corresponding indents.

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22. (Original) A vent according to claim 20 wherein at least one of the substantially parallel flanges comprises one or more projections and the vent flange comprises one or more corresponding indents and wherein, when the vent flange is inserted in the slot, the one or more projections project into the one or more corresponding indents.
23. (Original) A vent according to claim 20 wherein when the vent flange is inserted in the slot, at least one of the substantially parallel flanges is resiliently deformed so as to exert pressure on the vent flange.
24. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:
- a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway, the cover member surface having a first portion with a curved contour; and
  - a damper member located in the vent passageway and pivotally coupled at one of its ends to the cover member, an exterior surface of the damper member having a curved profile that is substantially similar to the curved contour of the first portion of the cover member surface, the damper member pivotable to an open-most position wherein the curved profile of the exterior surface of the damper member extends along the curved contour of the first portion of the cover member.

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25. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 24 wherein the cover member surface comprises a protrusion and wherein the damper member is pivotable ~~between to a closed configuration where a distal end of the damper member abuts against the protrusion and an open-most configuration wherein the exterior surface of the damper member extends along the first portion of the cover member surface.~~
26. (Original) A vent according to claim 25 comprising a screen comprising a plurality of screen apertures, the screen mountable to the cover member to span the vent passageway.
27. (Original) A vent according to claim 26 wherein the screen comprises a first bend for receiving the protrusion, the first bend resiliently deformable to exert pressure on the protrusion to secure the screen to the cover member.
28. (Original) A vent according to claim 27 wherein the screen comprises:  
a first surface which extends from the first bend along a first side of the protrusion; and  
a second surface which extends from the first bend along a second side of the protrusion;  
wherein the first and second surfaces exert pressure on the protrusion.
29. (Original) A vent according to claim 28 wherein the first bend has an interior angle in a range of 10-60°.

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30. (Original) A vent according to claim 28 wherein the screen comprises:

a third surface which extends from the second surface across the vent passageway to a second portion of the cover member surface on an opposing side of the vent passageway from the protrusion; and

a fourth surface which extends from the third surface along the second portion of the cover member surface.

31. (Currently Amended) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the fourth surface receives second portion of the cover member surface comprises one or more projections which extend from the second portion of the cover member surface and project through one or more corresponding screen apertures in the fourth surface.

32. (Original) A vent according to claim 31 comprising one or more fastener members, each fastener member coupleable to a corresponding one of the one or more projections for retaining the fourth surface against the second portion of the cover member surface.

33. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the screen comprises a second bend between the second and third surfaces, the second bend having an interior angle in a range of 10-120°.

34. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the screen comprises a third bend between the third and fourth surfaces, the third bend having an interior angle in a range of 30-120°.

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35. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the third surface is substantially planar prior to deformation of the screen.
36. (Original) A vent according to claim 30 wherein the third surface comprises at least one curve prior to deformation of the screen.
37. (Original) A vent according to claim 24 comprising a substantially hollow adapter member coupleable to the cover member at its exterior end and to a conduit at its interior end to provide fluid communication between the vent passageway and the conduit.
38. (Currently Amended) A vent ~~according to claim 37~~ comprising:  
a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway, the cover member surface having a first portion with a curved contour;  
a damper member located in the vent passageway and pivotally coupled to the cover member, an exterior surface of the damper member having a curved profile that is substantially similar to the curved contour of the first portion of the cover member surface; and  
a substantially hollow adapter member coupleable to the cover member at its exterior end and to a conduit at its interior end to provide fluid communication between the vent passageway and the conduit;  
wherein the cover member comprises a pair of substantially parallel flanges which define a slot and wherein the exterior end of the adapter member comprises

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a vent flange which is insertable into the slot for coupling the exterior end of the adapter member to the cover member.

39. (Original) A vent according to claim 38 wherein when the vent flange is inserted in the slot, at least one of the substantially parallel flanges is resiliently deformed so as to exert pressure on the vent flange.

40. (Currently Amended) A vent comprising:

a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway, the cover member surface having a first portion that comprises a first bend; and

a damper member located in the vent passageway and pivotally coupled at one of its ends to the cover member, an exterior surface of the damper member having a second bend, the second bend having a profile that is substantially similar to a contour of the first bend, the damper member pivotable to an open-most position wherein the profile of the second bend of the exterior surface of the damper member extends along the contour of the first bend of the first portion of the cover member.

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41. (New) A vent comprising:

a substantially hollow cover member having a cover member surface which defines a vent passageway;

a screen having a plurality of screen apertures, the screen mountable to the cover member to span the vent passageway;

a damper member pivotally mounted in the vent passageway;

a substantially hollow adapter member, the adapter member coupleable to the cover member at its exterior end and to a conduit at its interior end to provide fluid communication between the vent passageway and the conduit;

wherein the cover member comprises a pair of substantially parallel flanges which define a slot and wherein the exterior end of the adapter member comprises a vent flange which is insertable into the slot for coupling the exterior end of the adapter member to the cover member.